



**Advocates for Rural Broadband**

Jerry Piper  
President

Kelly Worthington  
Executive Vice President

October 26, 2017

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Office of the Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

**In the Matter of: Nomination for Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors, CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of the board of directors and membership of WTA – Advocates for Rural Broadband (“WTA”), I respectfully submit this letter in support of Geoffrey A. Feiss’ re-appointment to the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) Board of Directors where he would continue representing the interests of “incumbent local exchange carriers (“ILECs”) (non-Bell Operating Companies) with \$40 million or less in annual revenues.”

Mr. Feiss has dedicated himself to a career in the telecommunications industry, a career that spans nearly 30 years. Throughout this time, he has developed a deep understanding and familiarity of universal service policy and regulation. To this end, Mr. Feiss has combined these traits with his knowledge of the rural ILEC community to effectively perform his duties as a current USAC Board Member.

Mr. Feiss is well respected and has broad support within the rural ILEC community. He has been an effective advocate for small rural ILECs, and WTA strongly supports his re-appointment to the USAC Board of Directors.

Sincerely,

Kelly Worthington  
Executive Vice President

cc: Charles Tyler  
TAPD, Wireline Competition Bureau